

**Regular Month Meeting  
Benton City Council  
April 20, 2020**

A public hearing was called to order on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 4:45 PM via Zoom video conference to discuss the City of Benton's application to apply for funding for 2 new pavilions at H.H. Lovett Park through the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant.

Council members present: Butch Holland, Sherra Riley, Rita Murray, Ann Riley, Charles Edmonds and Kevin Farley.

Other staff present: Rita Dotson, Mayor; Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer; Rob Mattingly, City Attorney; Todd Riley, Gas Manager; Jessica Scillian, Gas Office Manager

Guests present: Mason Blandford (Paducah Sun reporter), Gracie Harrington (Lake News reporter), Alicia Brophy, Brittany Ramage, Misty Green, Lori Shadowen, Kelly Farrell and Mandy Miller.

Mayor Dotson introduced the project and location. City Clerk Cooper discussed the building details and cost. She also asked each present to fill out a Project Concurrence form and get them back to her to submit with the application.

All present were in favor of moving forward with applying for the LWCF grant.

---

The regular meeting of the Benton City Council was called to order immediately following the public hearing on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 5:00 P.M. by Mayor Rita Dotson with the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer by Kevin Farley. This meeting was also conducted via Zoom video conference.

Council Members Present: Butch Holland, Sherra Riley, Rita Murray, Ann Riley, Charles Edmonds and Kevin Farley.

Other Staff Present:

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treasurer  
Rob Mattingly, City Attorney  
Todd Riley, Gas Mgr  
Stephen Sanderson, Police Chief

City Clerk/Treasurer Cooper read a resolution for the City's intention to make application to the Department of Local Government for assistance under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 to apply for 2 new park pavilions. A motion was made by Murray, seconded by Edmonds to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

City Attorney Mattingly read the first reading of an ordinance annexing the South Marshall Middle School property into the city limits.

City Attorney Mattingly read the second reading of an ordinance repealing the ordinance establishing responsible bidder requirements for the City construction projects. A motion was made by A. Riley, seconded by Holland to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson recommended Valera Brooks to the open position of the City of Benton Ethics Committee. A motion was made by Edmonds, seconded by S. Riley to approve. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Dotson discussed Kentucky League of Cities proposal for updating the City of Benton's comprehensive plan and strategic plan. The cost is \$24,000 and can be spread over 2 fiscal years. It is likely that Benton Partnership will be willing to help fund this plan update. A motion was made by Murray, seconded by A. Riley to approve the proposal. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Holland, seconded by Edmonds to seek paving bids in June. Mayor Dotson explained that our paving fund is low right now but more funds will be available in August. Bidding will advertise in June or July. All agreed. Motion carried.

Chief Sanderson presented the police report for March. There were 772 calls to service and 37 citations.

A motion was made by Farley, seconded by S. Riley to approve the regular minutes of March 16, 2020 and the special called minutes of March 26, 2020. All agreed. Motion carried.

In Mayor/Council items, Mayor Dotson mentioned that Governor Beshear signed the CERS separation bill. She mentioned that Main Street Waterline Replacement project is complete and Youngblood Excavating did a wonderful job in completing and fixing yards.

Ann Riley asked if there is anything that we can do for 2020 graduates since school is cancelled until August. Mayor Dotson has ordered a banner through Rogue Graphics to display at City Hall and Rogue Graphics is donating this. Gift ideas were discussed.

S. Riley mentioned there are culverts near Benton Birmingham Road that are clogged with debris which could cause flooding issues around Valley Road. Since Benton Birmingham Road is a state road, Mayor Dotson said she will contact Michael Oliver with Department of Transportation.

There being no further business to come before the Council, meeting adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

---

Rita Dotson, Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Bethany Cooper, City Clerk/Treas.